England – Parliament. – H. of L. Proceedings. – II.]

The Humble

ADDRESS

Of the Right Honourable the

Lords Spiritual and Temporal

In Parliament Assembled,

PRESENTED TO

HIS MAJESTY

On *Friday* the Twenty fourth Day of *January*, 1734.

WITH

His Majesty's

MOST GRACIOUS

ANSWER.

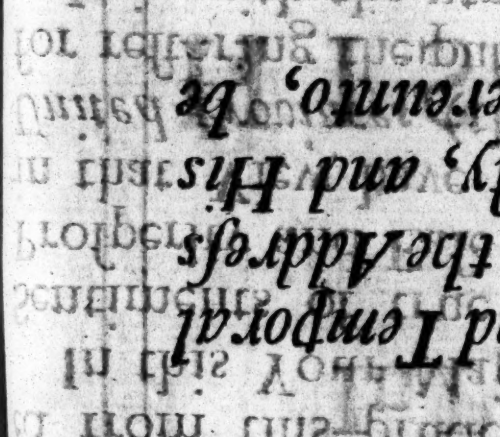
LONDON,

Printed by *John Baskett*, Printer to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1734.

Die Veneris, 24 *Januarii*, 1734.

Ordered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, That the Address of this House, presented to His Majesty, and His Majesty's most Gracious Answer thereunto, be forthwith Printed and Published.

W. Cowper, *Cler. Parliamentor.*



The Humble ADDRESS of the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled.

Die Jovis, 23 Januarii, 1734.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, humbly beg Leave to return Your Majesty our unfeigned Thanks for Your most gracious Speech from the Throne.

The many Blessings we enjoy under Your Majesty's mild and auspicious Government are happily felt by all Your People; amongst which Your paternal Care and Tenderness for their true Interest, in employing Your unwearied Endeavours to prevent their being unnecessarily involved in the present War, stand signally distinguished: And it would argue the highest Degree of Ingratitude in us, if we did not acknowledge ourselves sensibly affected by the Benefits that have accrued from this prudent Conduct.

In this Your Majesty has given the World fresh Proofs of Your just Sentiments of true and solid Glory, since You have preferred the real Prosperity and Ease of Your Subjects to all other Considerations; and in that View have concerted Measures with the States General of the *United Provinces* (the ancient and natural Allies of the *British* Crown) for restoring the publick Tranquillity.

It is with the utmost Satisfaction we observe, that, in Consequence of this Proceeding, the good Offices of Your Majesty, in Conjunction with them, have been accepted by the several Parties engaged in the War; and we cannot suffer ourselves to doubt, but the Interposition of the Maritime Powers, united in Interest and mutual Friendship, will have its just Weight.

When we turn our Thoughts to the various and different Views of the Princes and Powers concerned, we find ourselves obliged, with the utmost Thankfulness, to ascribe it to Your Majesty's uncommon Vigilance and Attention to the Welfare of Your People, and the Repose of *Christendom*, that no Time hath been lost in making use of any good Dispositions of the respective Powers at Variance; and that this salutary and extensive Work is advanced to such a Degree, that a Plan may shortly be offered to their Consideration, as a Basis for a general Treaty.

The Events of Negotiations, as well as of War, are, in the Nature of Things, liable to Uncertainty: But when we reflect on the many Instances we have experienced of right Reason and Prudence being the governing Rule of Your Majesty's Actions, we promise ourselves that these Your generous Labours for procuring universal Tranquillity will merit that good Success, which all well disposed Minds wish they may be attended with.

At the same Time permit us to assure Your Majesty, that we are incapable of being so far amused by any Hopes whatsoever, as to leave the Security of Your Majesty and Your Kingdoms exposed to real Dangers; and that our Endeavours shall never be wanting to disappoint the vain

Expectations of any who ſhall be ſo preſumptuous, as to imagine Advantages to themſelves from ſuch Methods.

The Wiſdom of Your Majeſty's Councils, and that Steadineſs and Conſtancy, which are inherent in Your Royal Mind, joined with a Harmony which ſubſiſts between Your Majeſty and that Powerful Republick, in Concert with which this great Tranſaction has been carried on, will, we truſt, in due Time, prevail over all unreaſonable Oppoſition: And that this may be the happy Effect of Your good Offices, we beg Leave to aſſure Your Majeſty, with that Reſolution and Firmneſs which become the Peers of *Great Britain* on ſo important an Occaſion, That we will chearfully ſupport Your Majeſty in all ſuch Meaſures, as may be neceſſary for procuring the Bleſſings of Peace and Tranquillity, or for putting this Nation in a Condition to act that Part, which it may be incumbent on *Great Britain* to undertake.

It is a Felicity which we ought, in the moſt affectionate Manner, to remember on every Occaſion of approaching Your ſacred Perſon, That Your Majeſty hath always eſteemed the Intereſt of Sovereign and Subject as mutual and inſeparable, and made the due Execution and Obſervance of the Laws the Rule of Your Government: As Your Majeſty, agreeably to Your repeated Declarations from the Throne, hath invariably held this Conduct towards Your Subjects, we can entertain no Doubt, but You will find the ſame inviolable and unſhaken Fidelity, and the ſame Zeal for the true Honour and Happineſs of Your Majeſty and Your Kingdoms (which can never be divided) both from Your Parliament and Your People.

On our Parts, we humbly intreat Your Majeſty to accept the ſtrongeſt Aſſurances, That we are determined, by a ſteady Courſe of Loyalty and dutiful Affection to Your Majeſty, and a firm Perſeverance in purſuing the true Intereſt of our Country, to convince the World, that we moſt ſeriouſly conſider the Maintenance of our Religion and Liberties, as being abſolutely involved in the Security and Support of Your Majeſty's Perſon and Government; and in the Preſervation of the Proteſtant Succeſſion in Your Royal Houſe; and that it is the unalterable Purpoſe of our Hearts, under the Protection of the Divine Providence, to tranſmit theſe invaluable Bleſſings ſafe and intire to our Poſterity.

His MAJESTY'S moſt Gracious ANSWER.

My LORDS,

I Thank You for this Loyal and Affectionate Addreſs. The Concern that You ſhew for the Succeſs of My Endeavours, in Conjunction with the States General, for reſtoring the Publick Tranquillity, is very Acceptable to Me.

Nothing ſhall be wanting on My Part, that may contribute thereto; and the Duty and Affection of My Parliament and People, upon which I depend in all Events, will add great Weight to My Endeavours.